

[20 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Sl. No.	State/UTs	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
		P	P	P	P
30.	Delhi	266	290	290	306
31.	Lakshadweep	1	1	1	1
32.	Pondicherry	36	36	36	36
	ALL INDIA:	71937	75181	78119	81000

P: Provisional.

Potato Production in U.P.

*507. DR. SWAMI SAKSHI JI MAHARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that potato production in Uttar Pradesh is facing glut for the last three-four years and farmers have suffered heavily in financial terms; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken so far or are proposed to be taken, to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) The estimated production of potato in U.P. has been higher in last 3 years compared to 1997-98 but no glut is reported in the current year. However, prevailing price is reported lower due to higher production.

(b) The Market Intervention Scheme is implemented for procurement of horticultural items of importance when their prices tend to fall below economic levels on the formal request of concerned State Governments, if the State Government is willing to share 50% of the losses, if any, incurred in the procurement process.

Additional funds for sewage/common treatment plant in Delhi

*509. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATARAO:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Yamuna is still being polluted in Delhi as sewage treatment plants have not been constructed for treatment of effluents from 19 major drains;

(b) whether the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation is

undertaking construction of five water treatment plants in Delhi, to check pollution of Yamuna;

(c) if so, whether Government would release additional funds for construction of more sewage treatment plants and Common Treatment Plant in each of the major colonies of Ashok Vihar, Shalimar Bagh, Mangolpuri, West Enclave, etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Out of 16 sewage treatment plants to be constructed by the Delhi Jal Board under the ongoing phase, 11 plants have already been completed and commissioned. The remaining five are under different stages of completion and are targeted for completion by 31.3.2003.

The Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation is not constructing any water treatment plant. However, they are constructing common effluent treatment plants for treating industrial effluents to check the pollution of river Yamuna in Delhi. Out of the 15 common effluent treatment plants to be constructed, the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation is constructing 14 plants and the Delhi Development Authority is constructing the remaining one plant.

Further, out of the 16 sewage treatment plants referred to above, funding for two of them, each of 10 million litres per day capacity, has been provided by the Government of India. The sanctioned cost of these two plants is Rs. 13.44 crore against which so far an amount of Rs. 11.44 crore has been released being the Central share. The remaining 14 plants are being funded by the Government of NCT of Delhi out of their own plant funds. For the 15 common effluent treatment plants, an amount of Rs. 22.50 crore has been released being 25% Central share in the total cost. The scheme under which these funds were released has since been closed. There is, therefore, no proposal at present to release additional funds for construction of more sewage treatment plants and common effluent treatment plants in Delhi.